The New-York Times.

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FROM WASHINGTON.

Passage of a Gold Bill in the House.

The Secretary to Anticipate the Payment of Interest.

ARRIVAL OF GEN. GRANT IN THE CITY.

His Enthusiastic Reception at Willard's.

The Bill to Relieve Unemployed Generals.

Large Number of Confirmations by the Senate.

SPECIAL DISPATCHES TO THE N. Y. TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, March 8.

ARRIVAL OF GEN. GRANT.

Brigadier-Gen. THOMAS, of Sheridan of Minnesota, Gen. GRANT made his debut into the city this evening, accompanied by his son, a lad thirteen years of age.

He quietly took his seat at the dinner table at WILLARD'S. Many inquiries were made as to who the stranger Major-General was, but none seemed to know, until an officer who had served with him in the West recognized the hero of Vicksburg. The announcement spread like lightning, and a hearty handshaking ensued. Cheer rose above the clatter of dishes and the trampling of servants. The eager guests crowded around the General; you looked as if he would rather face a battery than a demonstration like this. But there being no line of retreat open to him, he had only the alternative left to make the best of the situation. The kiss of a warm friend was the penalty he paid for his demonstration of popularity. Gen. GRANT held consultation with Gen. HALLECK to-night for four hours.

THE CAPTURES ON CHESAPEAKE BAY.

The Cruiser, Acting Lieut. HALL, commanding, one of the several gunboats sent after the Tiger, some time Yorktown this morning, and reported that Commander FARREN left the Plankatank last evening, where he had seen the Tiger burnt to the water's edge, and had captured seven of Wise's canoes. One of the prizes had fired into the vessel of the Tiger and destroyed the machinery.

THE BANK BILL.

The Ways and Means Committee to-day went through the amendments of the subcommittee on the Bank Bill, and will have it ready to report to-morrow. The committee have adopted nearly all of the amendments suggested by the Comptroller and the ex-Secretary.

ADMIRAL DUPONT.

It is understood that Admiral DUPONT will shortly be summoned to Washington, to appear before a Congressional inquiry on his attack on Fort Sumter, in April last. The Admiral's friends count the investigation a compliment that he fears will come out bright through the ordeal.

COURT-MARTIAL ON ADMIRAL WILKES.

The Court-martial in Admiral WILKES' case commences to-morrow. The following are charges preferred against him by the Secretary of the Navy: Disobedience of the lawful orders of his superior officer while in the execution of the duties of his office; inexcusable conduct and negligence or carelessness in obeying orders; disrespect and disrespectful language by his superior officer while in the execution of his office; refusal of obedience to a lawful general order of regulation issued by the Secretary of the Navy. Conduct unbecoming an officer, and constituting an offence made punishable by article eight of the articles adopted and put in force for the government of the Navy of the United States. One of the specifications of the last charge is, that Commodore WILKES did make and purport in making evasive, informal and insufficient answers touching his age. The other charges are equally ridiculous.

THE CONSOLIDATED MINING COMPANY.

The Supreme Court room was crowded to-day with people to hear Judge HALLET'S argument in favor of the Consolidated Mining Company. He showed in his speech that the boundary line had already been run seven times by the Surveyor General of California, and on each occasion the mines were declared to have been within the limits of the Forest claim; that his claim has been argued nine times in court, and eight times decided in favor of the Forest claims, and once in favor of Bonynge's claim; that no appeal was taken from the decision in California, by the Government, which was against the United States, and that the Government was thus stopped from denying the rights of the Forest claim. He will complete his argument to-morrow.

NAVAL STEAM ENGINEERING.

The House Naval Committee had before them to-day Commander WALKER, of the navy, and Chief Engineer HIGGINSON. Their evidence related to the present system of construction of the navy, especially the Engineer Department, which they both fully indorsed. They regard ISHERWOOD'S theory as correct.

MILITARY NOMINATIONS.

The Senate Military Committee have ready to report a large number of military nominations, including Major and Brigadier-Generals, Quartermasters, Commissaries and Paymasters.

DISPATCHES TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, March 8.

NAVAL DEPOT AT THE WEST.

It appears from a report of the late Admiral FOOTE, just made public, that after an examination of several sites in the West, he recommends Cairo, Illinois, as the best for a naval depot, with an auxiliary depot at Cairo. The subject is now before Congress.

CONFIRMATIONS.

The Senate to-day confirmed the following Rebel nominees as deputy postmasters:

Stephen A. Bowen, Washington, D. C.; Amos M. Smith, Rockford, Ill.; Ethaniel Wright, Lee, Mass.; J. Nelson Brockway, Belvidere, Ill.; Carlos Morgan, Glenns Falls, N. Y.; Horatio N. Barker, St. Albans, Vt.; C. W. Gillet, Waterbury, Conn.; C. E. Prescott, Hoyoake, Miss.; Jesse B. Wright, Springfield, Mo.; Thomas A. Marshall, Vicksburgh, Miss.; A. Hampton Contreas, Scranton, Penn.; W. W. Waters, St. Anthony's Falls, Minn.; Roswell G. Pettibone, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; John H. Shinnmon, Lawrence, Kansas; Hiram B. Smith, Georgetown, Col.; David S. Turner, Columbia, Col.; George Bunce, Manchester, N. H.; Horton L. Street, Seneca, Col.; A. Denison J. Joslyn, Elgin, Ill.; James C. Sloo, Cairo, Ills; Warren W. Wing, Norfolk, Va.; Elias F. Sinclair, Red Wing, Minn.; Edward Russell, Davenport, Iowa.

Elijah Steele, of California, was confirmed as Indian Superintendent for Northern California.

The Senate confirmed some twelve hundred nominations to be Assistant Adjutant-Generals with the rank of captain; and the following with the rank of Major: Lieut. Col. L. Williard, of Illinois, with Gen. McPherson; Lieut. Col. H. B. Sprague, seventh regiment New-York Volunteers, with Gen. Stokes; Charles A. Wheeler, of Massachusetts, with Gen. Sedgwick; Charles H. Howard, of Maine, with Gen. Howard; John F. Anderson, of Massachusetts, with Gen. Foster; Lieut. William C. Mitchell, Forty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, with Gen. Hancock; Capt. Daniel D. Brooks, of the New-York Volunteer Engineers, with Gen. Gillmore; Capt. Grenville M. Dodge, with Gen. Rosecrans; Lieut. Col. Samuel P. Heyward, with Gen. Ord; First Lieut. Thomas C. Higham, Second Iowa Cavalry, with Gen. Granger; Peter Haggerty, of Massachusetts, with Gen. Banks.

ARRESTED.

JOSIAH HAVILS, a hardware dealer in this city, has been arrested by order of the Government, and his store closed. He has had a number of contracts with the Government.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, March 8.

CONFISCATION.

The petition of ELI THAYER and others, presented on Monday, was incorrectly stated to be in favor of "the passage of a law confiscating the lands of the rebels, and distributing them among freedmen." The petition, in reality, asks Congress "to confiscate utterly, and without reserve, the lands of rebels; and to give of the same, without other formality than occupation, one hundred and sixty acres to each private in the naval service, and to each man in the rank and file of the Union army, and of the rebel army who will take the subscribed oath of allegiance to the United States; and that the lands thereafter remaining be open to settlement under the Homestead Law."

A SPECIAL ORDER.

On motion of Mr. GRIMES, of Iowa, (Union,) Tuesday next was set apart solely for the consideration of District of Columbia business. On this motion, the bill to amend the act to incorporate the inhabitants of Washington, passed May 20, 1836, was called up, and after amendment was passed.

THE PACIFIC RAILROAD.

On motion of Mr. LANE, of Kansas, (Union,) a resolution was adopted, directing the Committee on the Pacific Railroad to inquire into the expediency of constructing a railroad from Fort Leavenworth to Lawrence, in Kansas.

CALIFORNIA LAND CLAIMS.

Mr. CARLILE, of Virginia, (Dem.,) reported back from the Committee on Public Lands, a bill to confirm certain land claims in California.

RAILROAD AND MAIL FACILITIES.

Mr. MORGAN, of New-York, (Union,) presented various memorials, praying for additional mail and railroad facilities between New-York and Philadelphia. Referred to the Committee on Post-offices and Post-roads.

THE QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, (Union,) introduced a bill to provide for the better organization of the Quartermaster's Department, which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

This bill organizes divisions charged with duties as follows:

1. Purchase and disposition of horses for the service. 2. Purchase and issue of clothing, camp-equipage, and garrison equipage and accoutrements. 3. Charge of transportation. 4. Western transportation and telegraphs. 5. Purchase of forage. 6. Erection of hospitals, barracks, storehouses, stables, bridges. 7. Purchase and disposition of fuel, stationery, and forage. 8. Inspections and reports. 9. Correspondence, returns and records. 10. Duty in case of urgency or in purchases at the seat of war, solicitation for proposals is required. The bill providing also for the more economical distribution of supplies, and for the punishment of frauds or bribery in such purchases.

THE M'DOWELL MILITARY COMMISSION.

On motion of Mr. POWELL, of Kentucky, (Democrat) the Senate proceeded to the consideration of his resolution calling for the report and evidences of the commission at the head of which was Gen. McDowell, charged to investigate the conduct of certain officers in the West.

Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, (Union,) did not think the Senate should order these papers. If it was the report of a Court-Martial, where both sides could be heard, he would not object to a call for papers in any case whatever. This was simply a commission sent out to seek information for the Government, the result of which was to be used in the prosecution of such officers as had been derelict in duty and become implicated in unlawful transactions.

Mr. GRIMES, of Iowa, (Union,) proposed an amendment to strike out the words "Secretary of War," and insert, "request the President of the United States to transmit to the Senate the report and the evidence, and any papers in his possession shedding light upon the subject." Mr. GRIMES said he understood that the whole proceedings, both in the institution of the commission and its subsequent action, were grossly in violation of the articles of war, which provided that no such commission should be created except by the President, and him alone." He was informed that the President was wholly ignorant of the formation of such a commission. He (Mr. GRIMES) considered it nothing but a commission empowered to fish up testimony derogatory to officers of high standing in the army.

He referred as an instance to the case of Gen. CURTIS, who was arraigned on exparte testimony without his presence. He had been informed that every particle of the testimony reflecting upon Gen. CURTIS, taken by the commission, was disproved by testimony now in the possession of the President and the War Department. So satisfactory was the evidence that the President announced at once that Gen. CURTIS was free from all blame. If this resolution passes it should be accompanied by a request for such testimony, which should properly accompany it, that the country may have an opportunity to judge of both sides. He did not want an exparte statement to go out to the detriment of a soldier when the records of the War Department entirely exonerated him.

Mr. LANE, of Kansas, (Union,) moved to insert after the word "President" "the words, "if not incompatible with the public interests."

Mr. POWELL had no objection to the amendment of the Senator from Iowa. That Senator had stated that this commission was organized without the knowledge of the President. This was no doubt the truth. The Secretary of War was in the habit of doing things without the knowledge of the President, that he has pleasure very much to the detriment of the best interests of the country. If the President had vowed such things to be done without his knowledge as he was not entitled to the commendation of the country. He should instantly dismiss such an official from his service. He (POWELL) hoped that Gen. CURTIS was exonerated. He had visited the War Department on one occasion; for the purpose of expressing his indignation at the course of arresting a man who had introduced here to prevent frauds upon the War Department, and was flatly refused the privilege of reading the reports in the War Office. He (POWELL) considered it an unpardonable rudeness in a Senator, and he had not put his foot inside of that office since. He contended that he had an equal right to the privileges of the War Department with Republican Senators.

Mr. LANE, of Kansas, had no answer but this to make to the remarks of the Senator from Kentucky on the President and Secretary of War, which, in the performance of duty, if he was either of them, he would consider it the highest honor that could be paid him to be assailed by the Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. SHERMAN, of Ohio, (Union,) said the evidence in the possession of the President abundantly vindicated Gen. CURTIS from the charge of speculation in cotton. He had it from the lips of the President himself that the removal of Gen. CURTIS was for another cause.

Mr. POWELL said that the Senator from Kansas had stated that if he were the President or Secretary of War, he would want no higher eulogy than his defence. If, he thought the Secretary of War was performing his duty, he would have no word of censure for him; of one thing he was certain, that the praises of the Senator from Kansas would be very damaging to the President and his War Secretary.

Mr. LANE, of Kansas, had been here three years and had never heard one word from the Senator (POWELL) in denunciation of the leaders of the rebellion, while he heard day by day denunciations of the officers of the Government.

Mr. JOHNSON, of Maryland, (Union,) hoped the Senator from Massachusetts would withdraw his objection to the passage of the resolution as amended. Gen. CURTIS was not the only official whose reputation had been damaged in public estimation by the commission. Nine-tenths of the evidence taken it would not be received in a court of justice.

Mr. WILSON would not resist the passage of the resolution after the amendment of the Senator from Iowa; as a general rule, however, he did not think it proper to call for the reports of and evidences taken by commissions sent out by the War Department to reform abuses, to be spread before the country.

The subject was informally postponed.

PROMOTING ENLISTMENTS.

The bill to promote enlistments came up in order, the pending amendment being that of Mr. BROWN, recommending a general emancipation policy as a war measure.

Mr. BROWN, of Missouri, (Union,) addressed the Senate for two hours and a half in support of the proposition that Congress and the Executive were clothed with full power to eradicate Slavery, as a war measure. He asserted that the present struggle in which we were engaged, would, have to be fought over again, if during its continuance the institution of Slavery was not eradicated by the exercise of those powers with which Congress and the Executive are clearly clothed.

Mr. BROWN quoted voluminously from PATRICK HENRY and JOHN QUINCY ADAMS in support of the existence of this power. He contended that MISSOURI, which forty years ago came into the Union by an act of Congress dedicating her to Slavery, would now gladly hail the passage of another act dedicating her to Freedom.

The further consideration of the bill was then postponed.

EQUALIZED PAY OF SOLDIERS.

Mr. WILSON called up the bill to equalize the pay of soldiers.

Mr. DAVIS, of Kentucky, (Dem.,) offered an amendment providing that the District Court shall appoint a commissioner to determine the value and make awards to loyal owners of slaves taken into the service.

Mr. DAVIS announced his intention to address the Senate to-morrow on the amendment.

The Senate went into executive session, and soon after adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, March 8.

THE PAY OF SOLDIERS.

Mr. KASSON, of Iowa, (Union,) presented resolutions of the Iowa Legislature, in favor of soldiers who have been discharged in consequence of wounds or disabilities, being employed in situations which they are competent to fill under the Federal Government, and heartily indorsing the policy of paying soldiers and sailors of African descent the same as is given to whites for similar service. The resolutions were referred to the Military Committee.

THE RECIPROCITY BILL.

The House went into Committee on the Senate amendments to the Reciprocity Bill, and agreed to the amendment discussed yesterday for medicine, and medical attendance for negro refugees, commonly called contrabands, $30,000, and rejected the pending amendment thereto, restricting the expenditure, to those who are or shall be actually in the service.

The House concurred in the larger number of the Senate's amendments, including thirty millions for transportation, and eighteen millions and a half for regular supplies of the Quartermaster's Department.

Owing to a disagreement on other amendments, the bill will be returned to the Senate.

THE GOLD BILL.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to sell from time to time, at his discretion, any gold coin in the Treasury over and above the amount which, in his opinion, may be required by the Government for the payment of interest on the public debt and for other purposes.

Mr. DUNCAN, of Indiana, (Union,) had offered an amendment, providing that the Secretary of the Treasury shall not sell any gold without the advice and consent of the other executive departments of the Government, and that the operation of this act shall cease in one year after its passage.

The question was taken and this amendment rejected.

The House next voted on the following amendment of Mr. COX, of Ohio:

Provided, Before any sale take place, at least five days' public notice shall be given of the time and place for receiving bids, and the Secretary of the Treasury may, if he deems it for the public interest, withdraw from the market before the bid is absolutely accepted.

This amendment was rejected—49 against 66.

The question was next voted on the amendment of Mr. HOOPER, of Ohio, namely:

Authorizing and requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to sell, at any time, the surplus coin in the Treasury for the payment of interest on the public debt.

Mr. BOUTWELL'S amendment, heretofore offered, was adopted in lieu of this, and as a substitute for the original bill. It merely authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to anticipate the payment of interest on the public debt from time to time, with or without a rebate of interest upon the coupons, as to him may seem expedient.

The bill in this amended form, was then passed, 90 against 54.

AYES—Messrs. Allison, Arnold, Ashley, Baldwin, of Michigan, Beaman, Blair, Blaisdell, Brandegee, Brooks, Chanler, A. W. Clark, F. Clark, Clay, Cobb, Cotfroth, Cole, Cox, Dawes, Dawson, Deming, Driscoll, Eckley, Edgerton, Eliot, Fenton, Frank, Garfield, Gooch, Hale, Hall, Harrington, Holman, Hutchins, Hubbard, of Iowa, Hubbard, of Connecticut, Johnson, of Ohio, Julian, Kalbfleisch, Kellogg, of Michigan, Kernan, Knapp, Law, Lazear, Loblond, Mallory, Marvin, McDowell, Molondy, McKinney, Middleton, Moorhead, Morrill, Morris, New, Noble, Odell, Olin, Morrison, Pomeroy, Price, Patton, Potter, O'Neill, Pennsylvania, O'Neill Ohio, Randall, Perry, Pruyn, Rice, Massachusetts, Rice, Maine, Rogers, Robins, Missouri, Schenck, Scott, Starr, Steele, New-York, Stiles, Stuart, Thayer, Thomas, Tracy, Upson, Van Valkenburg, Wadsworth, Ward, Webster, Whaley, Wheeler, A. White, Williams, Wilder, Wood, Worthington, Wright, Yeaman—96.

NAYS—Messrs. Alley, Ancona, Baily, Baxter, Blow, Boyd, Brookfield, Brown, of West Virginia; Dixon, Donnelley, Driggs, Farnsworth, Garfield, Hooper, Hulburd, Kasson, Kelly, Long, Lovejoy, McBride, McClurg, Morton, Orth, Pike, Price, Radford, Shannon, Smith, Spaulding, Stratton, Stevens, Williamson and Winfield—30.

OFFICERS WITHOUT COMMANDS.

Mr. SCHENCK, of Ohio, (Union,) from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported the following bill:

Whereas it appears that many regular and volunteer officers are either entirely unemployed, or not upon duty corresponding to their rank, thus holding commissions and drawing their pay without equivalent service, and at the same time standing in the way of promotion and increased pay of those performing the duty of general officers; therefore,

Resolved, That all Major-Generals and Brigadier-Generals who, on the 15th day of March, shall not be in the performance of duty or service corresponding to their respective rank, and who have not been engaged for three months previously in duty or service corresponding to the rank of the army, and all pay and emolument shall cease from that day, and the vacancies be filled by promotions and appointment as in other cases, provided that this bill shall not apply to any officer unemployed in consequence of the command to which he belongs being in service, or who is a prisoner of war in the hands of the enemy, or on parole.

The latter part of the bill provides for returning to the regular army those who were appointed therefrom to the position of general officers. They are to be returned to the rank they occupied before the passage of the act of July, 1861.

Mr. SCHENCK, of Ohio, said the provisions of the bill were distinct in their character, and involved no point which could not be readily comprehended, and he therefore asked the previous question on its passage.

Mr. HOLMAN, of Indiana, (Democrat) inquired how the bill would affect Gen. ROBERT ALLEN, who is charged with the Quartermaster's Department of the Valley of the Mississippi. Would the bill put him out of the service?

Mr. SCHENCK replied that in framing this bill, the Committee had no reference to any political officer. They believed the public service would be benefited by its passage, without regard to those who might be struck out on one side of the aisle. If the gentleman would look at the bill he would see that it is not directed at those general officers who happen not to be in command of divisions or brigades, but at those not employed in a capacity suitable to their respective ranks. If the President should place at the head of the Quartermaster's Department a gentleman holding the rank of Major-General, and if, after the employment, should be considered appropriate to the grade, and, therefore, this bill would not affect him. According to a communication from the War Department there are fourteen Major-Generals and eleven Brigadier-Generals unemployed, and thirty-nine Major and Brigadier-Generals together who are employed in various ways, in duties of more or less importance, some on Examining Boards, and others on Court-martial, not having command of corps or brigades.

Mr. COX said the President has no discretion to drop any officer who is unemployed.

Mr. SCHENCK replied the President has no power to strike any one above a colonel.

Mr. COX understood this bill to save the President's arbitrary power.

Mr. SCHENCK said the bill itself drops the officers if they come within the description.

Mr. COX asked whether this bill had been printed.

Mr. SCHENCK replied that it had not been ordered to be printed by the House, but it had been printed in the newspapers of the country.

Mr. COX remarked that there was something of a personal and partisan character in this bill. He hoped his colleague was so gallant as not to strike at a brother officer. The House should have an opportunity of seeing whether there was any back-handed stroke at any general officer unemployed.

Mr. SCHENCK desired his colleague to deal in plain language, not in insinuations. There was nothing concealed in this bill. He could not lie under suspicion when he knew nothing wrong was intended, and would not reply to any such insinuations.

Mr. COX—You need not reply to any insinuation until one is made. I don't know whether the bill strikes at FREMONT or MCCLELLAN, or any other officer.

Mr. SCHENCK—Neither nor both.

Mr. COX said he always liked to know what the bill means. He did not take things for granted because they came from the Military Committee. He wanted to understand why thirty-four officers were struck at. He wanted to see who was to be hurt by it. Was there to be any saving in the Government, or are others to be appointed to the places of those who are struck down. He did not deal in insinuations. An opportunity should be afforded to discuss the bill. He knew McCLELLAN did not ask favors from gentlemen on the other side of the House. McCLELLAN had lost in the public service every dollar he had earned as a civilian. It might be the purpose to strike at him yet.

Mr. SCHENCK said that when this bill, several weeks ago, was proposed to be reported and read to the House, his colleague objected, supposing it to be a cut in the naval line.

Mr. COX replied that he did not use expressions of this kind.

Mr. SCHENCK said, of all events, his colleague drew the right inference, when he spoke of cuts; there were no covert darts in the bill. His colleague was observed and critical; and he could not persuade himself that his colleague had not looked into it. He appealed to him to say whether the provisions were not as clear as to be readily comprehended.

Mr. COX said that the paper had been referred back to the committee, and was now for the first time reported.

Mr. SCHENCK said something ought to be done to correct the evil, without reference to any officer to be affected by the bill. His colleague wanted to get in a speech about McCLELLAN, who would be affected by the bill, unless he should be exempted before the 15th of March. So of Fremont, Hunt and others. The country cheerfully paid its taxes to support officers who were rendering no adequate, or no service at all.

Mr. ERNSTEIN, of Wisconsin, (Dem.,) inquired whether officers could not be dropped without the action of Congress.

Mr. SCHENCK replied that they could be dismissed, but that would imply something wrong. The committee thought it would be better to provide for dropping them in a bill, which would not touch the character of the officers, or in any impropriety of conduct.

Mr. GARFIELD, of New-York, (Dem.,) asked whether the gentleman had any information to show why these officers were not employed.

Mr. SCHENCK replied in the negative, and said some of them ought to be employed.

Mr. KERNAN, of New-York, (Dem.,) said the bill affected those general officers who had not been employed for three months. Did the Committee consider that some of them were meritorious officers? If there were meritorious officers among them they should not be dropped; but a sufficient cause ought to be named to retain such officers. The House ought not to pass a general law depriving all officers of pay and rank. There should be a discrimination.

Mr. SCHENCK replied that a discrimination must be left to the President, and further demonstrated the propriety of passing the bill.

Mr. COX said gentlemen on his side desired to offer an amendment, and it was only fair that an opportunity should be afforded for discussion. The rule of the House was determined upon this.

Mr. SCHENCK said he could not consent to any accommodation including a threat.

Mr. COX said he cautiously avoided a threat. His gallant friend from Ohio ought not to be frightened by a threat anyhow.

Mr. SCHENCK—I would say that I would agree to make the bill a special order. What day would the gentleman take it up?

Mr. COX said the first of April. (Laughter.)

By general consent the bill was made the order for Tuesday next.

UNIFORM AMBULANCE SYSTEM.

The Senate bill to establish a uniform system of ambulances, was passed with slight amendments, and also a bill to increase the rank and pay of the Provost-Marshal-General to those of a Brigadier-General. The vote on this was 66 against 26.

CONCERNING CHAPLAINS.

Mr. FARNSWORTH, of Illinois, (Union,) from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill providing that regular and volunteer chaplains shall not suffer diminution or loss of pay when absent on leave, or on account of sickness, or when held by the enemy as prisoners. The bill also provides for giving them pensions in case of disabilities of the rate of $20 a month. This bill was passed.

HOMESTEADS ON CONFISCATED ESTATES.

Mr. JULIAN, of Indiana, (Union,) from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill to secure to persons in the military or naval service of the United States homesteads on confiscated or forfeited estates in insurrectionary districts and for other purposes.

The bill was ordered to be printed and recommitted.

The House at 4:15 adjourned.

FROM NEWBERN.

Prospect of another Attack—The Rebel Ram on the Neuse—Preparations to Receive the Enemy.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

NEWBERN, Tuesday, March 1, 1864.

Our atmosphere is quite warlike again. Rumors have been for some time in circulation of the advance of a heavy column of the enemy's forces for the conquest of Newbern, and we are anticipating that JEFF. DAVIS is about to make another effort to realize his threat to take this place before we celebrate another anniversary of its capture by Gen. BURNSIDE, on the 14th of March, 1862.

Brig.-Gen. PALMER, commanding forces and defences of Newbern, was called from church on Sabbath morning by one of his scouts, and in the evening he held a consultation with the Superintendent of Negro Affairs, Capt. JAMES, relative, we suppose, to calling the colored men into service, if necessary. Yesterday an order from the Provost-Marshal, Capt. DANIEL, made its appearance, warning all white citizens able to bear arms to report immediately for duty.

Measures of this kind are well calculated to excite the public mind, still a good degree of confidence pervades the community. The rebels have been building an iron-clad at Kinston, and it is now reported ready for action. Major-Gen. PECK, who is ever watchful of the operations of the enemy, informed the writer, not long since, that he had heard the entire history of this boat, knew when her engine was to arrive and when it was put in motion. She is supposed to be the most formidable vessel, as it is called, will take part in the coming engagement. Gen. PECK is making such arrangements to receive this craft as will be entirely unexpected by the rebels.

Our navy has been reinforced, and is eager for an engagement, and we expect that if the enemy bring with them this boat, about which we have so long heard, its epitaph will soon be written.

For a very sufficient reason, I do not care to state the number of troops here. Take much in arms, we are better prepared to receive the enemy than on the first of last month. The Third New-York Cavalry, which has rendered most invaluable service in this department are now here, and acquainted as they are with every by-path for miles around, we are expecting most efficient service, in time past, and shall not be disappointed.

It is the common opinion that the golden opportunity for put ending has passed, so far as this place is concerned, and the general desire is expressed that we could have a sufficient force to warrant us meeting the enemy in the open field. ELIEU.

Death of a New-York Merchant.

NEW-HAVEN, Tuesday, March 8.

PELATIAH PERRIT, a prominent merchant in New-York during more than forty years, died at his residence in this city on Tuesday morning, March 8, aged 79 years. He was recently President of the Chamber of Commerce in New-York, and of the Seamen's Savings Bank, and has been active throughout a long life in the management of other important financial and charitable institutions. He graduated at Yale College in the class of 1802. His funeral will take place in New-Haven on Thursday afternoon.

From California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Monday, March 7.

The funeral of the late THOMAS STARR KING took place yesterday, and was very imposing. The assemblage of people was greater than on any similar occasion for many years. All the Christian denominations, the Masons, and the military participated. The Governor and the principal Federal and State officials were present. Minute guns were fired during the services.

From China and the Sandwich Islands.

THE PIRATE ALABAMA!

SAN FRANCISCO, Monday, March 7.

Dates have been received from Hong Kong up to Jan. 18.

Chinese papers contain nothing concerning the *Alabama* in addition to the news telegraphed here from New-York.

All the American shipping in Chinese waters was unemployed.

Sandwich Island dates are to Feb. 15. The funeral of the late King was celebrated according to the Masonic rites on the 3rd of Feb.

The season was favorable to the growing crops.

A Cunarder Exposed.

FAIRHAVEN, Tuesday, March 8.

Reports are in circulation, and have probably been telegraphed from here, of the invasion of Maryland by rebel raiders. It may be confidently stated that the only foundation for these rumors is the fact that a small rebel force has been seen in Loudon County, Va.

GEN. SHERMAN'S EXPEDITION.

Its Return to Vicksburgh—The Spoils of the March—Negroes, Mules, Cattle, Hogs, &c.

CAIRO, Tuesday, March 8.

Passengers by the steamer Lansberry, from Vicksburgh 3d, say that Sherman and his army are there.

ANOTHER REPORT.

PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday, March 8.

A special dispatch to the *Bulletin*, from Cincinnati, March 8, says: "An officer arrived at Cairo yesterday, direct from Vicksburgh, who corroborates the rebel stories regarding the return of Gen. Sherman's expedition to Jackson. He says that a portion of Sherman's force is marching steadily for Vicksburgh, with a small army of negroes, and a large lot of mules, horses, hogs, cattle, &c. These are the spoils taken on the way.

Rebel rumors say that Col. FORREST was killed in engagement with Gen. SHERMAN'S expedition."

Sherman's Operations up to Feb. 24—He Reached the Tombigbee—How Sherman's Troops Lived.

From the Nashville Union, March 4.

We have reliable information from Gen. SHERMAN up to the 24th ult., of a highly satisfactory character. It is brought by a gentleman who left Meridian on that day, and arrived in this city last night. He is intelligent, and took considerable pains to obtain the real situation of affairs; indeed, to obtain information was a portion of the motive for his hazardous trip.

After occupying Meridian, a portion of our forces were sent as far south as Quitman, but it returned again to the main body, as soon as it had accomplished its object, which was to destroy some railroad, and to create a consternation at Mobile, and cause a concentration of forces there, to have them out of the way of our progress eastward.

Having concentrated his army again, he proceeded in the direction of Demopolis, on the Tombigbee, which place it reached and occupied on the 22d, that portion of POLK'S forces which held the town retiring on their approach. The severance between the right and left wings of the army, which we noticed some days since, restored the enemy entirely holdson, and all was in order for march.

From here he has been completely out of communication, cannot get a light out of him. Our troops are moving in a solid body, her parties are constantly thrown out, destroying railroads, &c., completely severing rebel communications, wherever they went.

At a distance from railroads SHERMAN finds plenty of corn and potatoes, to subsist both animals and men; but where these articles could be carried off by the rebels the country is stripped. The luck of women, and the bad condition of the railroad beds, however, has protected the farmers thus far; and our troops are subsisting upon the fat of the land.

No stealing is allowed—no foraging, save by authorized parties, who issue certificates of indebtedness, payable when the parties prove their loyalty.

The remarkable speed of Sherman's movements is said to have determined Lord PALMERSTON to urge the abdication of the Queen; and the fact that, instead of joining his mother at Osborne, the Prince of Wales has gone with his princess to St. Leonards, is interpreted as an indication that EDWARD VII. is preparing to mount the throne, and to inaugurate a new foreign policy in the affairs of Great Britain.

It is certain that the present attitude of the English Government cannot long be maintained if England is to keep her place as a Power of the first rank, and if the abdication of VICTORIA is a necessary preliminary to vigorous and honorable action on the part of Great Britain, that abdication, it likely to be immediate upon and accomplished with no unnecessary delay.—*Commercial Advertiser.*

THE REBEL PIRATES.

MOVEMENTS OF THE ALABAMA.

HER RECEPTION IN THE EAST INDIES.

THE FLORIDA, GEORGIA AND TUSCALOOSA.

From our files of papers published in the East Indies we compile the following interesting account of the operations of the

ALABAMA.

From the Calcutta Englishman, Jan. 21.

We have been favored by a correspondent with the following particulars regarding the *Alabama*:

S. S. CAMBRIA, 11th January, 1864.

On the 21st December, at 10 P. M., we arrived in Singapore. On the 24th, at 9 A. M., the *Alabama* steamer passed out of the New Harbor for the Straits of Malacca. That same day we had in with the *Morrision*, formerly called the *Texas Star*, from Galle to Singapore, fully laden with rice; the ship had passed herself under the British Flag, but the Captain and crew, now in the Captain's employ, said they were false colors, and feared that, instead of flying the crew at Malacca.

On the 26th December, at 7 A. M., she boarded the American ships *Geneva* and *Highlander*, both lying at anchor, and about to get under weigh, to take up the spoils of the North Sands light vessel. He ordered both Captains on board the *Alabama*, examined their papers, allowed them to take a small quantity of clothing, bring their ships and pass them astern of their boats, without any water or provisions.

On the 30th of December, also, the *Alabama*, was seen off the North Sands light vessel, dealing decoys. The sailors appeared like a lot of shrewd, talking everything they could also about their prospects, but appearing to have any notice of their officer. The officer himself not seeming to know much about a ship, except as regards the burning of ships and in that was perfectly an adept. He soon amused by collecting all the sailors' chests in the forecastle, all the cabins and hold in the vessels, and then returning her on them. These then supplied a stock of clothes on the deck, and set her to the whole. So little discipline was there, that the *Alabama's* men were smoking cigars in the very chest the Captain on board the *Alabama's* decks. The men were lying about aft, as well as forward, smoking pipes and cigars. He was told by the men in the boat that they would like to get rid of her, she (*Alabama*) had not been out another day since she (*Alabama*) had promised to give them by and by, as well as prize money. That this was very dirty, and everything loosely in disorder. They said the *Geneva* and *Highlander* would be sent to Singapore as soon as they had burned. When the *Alabama* left the *Geneva* in his own boat, he saw Captain SEMMES on board the *Alabama*, when Semmes requested his boat, and whether he had any money or papers.

Semmes gave the Captain the option to come on board the *Alabama* for three weeks, out of the expenses of that time; or to be landed wherever he might be, and be preferred going with his ship. Semmes then asked if he had any water in the boat. There was none, and Semmes offered to tow him up to the Downs, to get some, but when the Captain looked round for his ship he was in Semmes, fore and aft, as the sailors term it, over gunwale and deck, and the *Alabama* under weigh, and the Captain on her way, seeking for whom she might devour.

THE ALABAMA AT SINGAPORE.

The following extract from a letter, dated Singapore, Dec. 26, and referring to the recent visit of the *Alabama*, to that port, will be read with interest:

"The *Alabama* is not large, barely 1,000 tons, but one has the air of a dare-devil craft that would hesitate not little to test her strength against a much stronger enemy. She is very low in the water, and carries a large crew, but the most remarkable feature of her is her extreme narrowness. Her length combined with small beam at every inch, if anything, over 10 feet. She has tremendous spars, and her standing spread of canvas is in her fore and aft rails, which are of gigantic proportions. Under canvas alone she has gone as much as 13½ knots. Her armament consists of six 32-pounder, smooth-bore broadside guns, and two large pivot guns, one fore and the other aft, the former being a 68 or 100-pound shot and the latter a smooth bore 32-pound shot. Everything on deck is in splendid order, and of the very best material. The engine-room is a picture of neatness, and the engines are double-cylinder, of 300-horse power, (nominal,) though capable of being worked to exceed 1,000 horse power. Her coal supply is 1,000 tons. The impression which one leaves the vessel on one's mind was that she is essentially a heavy craft, capable of the most rapid movements, and effective in the extent of her armament. We had been accustomed to think that she was slightly built, but this is a mistake, for, though wooden-built, she presents a side equal in strength to that of any modern vessel—heavy of her class. When talked to here about the hard pass the Southerners were having for it, Capt. SEMMES, pointing to the Confederate flag over his head, said: 'It is no matter, that flag never comes down—we hold and contend hence, unless only from our own feel the truth of.'"

To this statement the *European Times* adds:

"The *Alabama* left Singapore on the 24th of December after embarking supplies capable of lasting three months, and was next heard from in the Straits of Malacca, where, as is now well known, she captured the American ships *Sonora*, *Highlander*, and *Texas Star*. Telegrams received in advance of the incoming East India mail give considerable later intelligence of the movements of the *Alabama*, and the destruction of another American ship, which at last accounts was lying on fire and abandoned, in mining ground 10 miles south of Rangoon; now she is on the west coast of India, somewhere in the vicinity of Bombay. The vessel she has captured is reported as the *Emma*, of New-York; but this is doubtful, as according to the American register of shipping, no such vessel exists, nor have we been able to discover any such vessel as the *Emma* in eastern waters. She may, it is true, be one of the recently 'unknowns' lost; we will be without further information till the arrival of the mail."

The Straits Times, of Jan. 16, says:

"The great subject of interest during the past fortnight has been the arrival of the *Alabama* here, and her subsequent stay in the Straits of Malacca, after her American prizes. She arrived here on the night of the 31st, and next morning at 10 o'clock proceeded to New Harbor, where she took in 300 tons of coals. On the 2d she lay at the wharf open for inspection, when almost every person in Singapore paid her a visit. It is worthy of remark, however, that there was no display of enthusiasm in her behalf, and that no public demonstration whatever was made in her favor."

The following telegram concerning the capture of the *Emma Jane*, says the *Times of India*, has been received for the American Consul in Bombay:

CEYLON, Friday, Jan. 22.

The *Emma Jane* was taken by the *Alabama* and burnt off *Arianpo* on the 16th. Crew and mates landed at Arianpo and came up here coastwise of everything. Please take arrangements to get us up to Bombay.

The *Times of India* states that the *Emma Jane* left Boston on Jan. 2, bound for Ahmedpore.

HOW THE ALABAMA IS WELCOMED.

From the *Times of India*, Jan. 23.

It is said unlikely that the *Alab

GENERAL MARKETS.

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

HELP WANTED.

The New-York Historical Society

The New-York Times. Wednesday, March 9, 1864.

The New-York Times

PUBLISHED DAILY AND WEEKLY.
OFFICE NO. 113 NASSAU-ST.
TERMS, TERMS, TERMS.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

FROM ALBANY.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

NEWS FROM EUROPE.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SOLDIERS' BOUNTY FUND LOAN.

THE ATTACHED AMOUNT OF PREMIUMS REALIZED.

Yesterday, Comptroller HASKIN opened proposals for $1,500,000 of the "Soldiers' Bounty Fund Loan," being the balance of the amount for which he opened proposals on the 23d ult.

The following is a transcript of the bids in the order in which they were opened, and shows, in addition to the names of the bidders, the amount bid for each date, the premium offered, the last column showing the number of accepted bids and the amount of premium realized upon them. It will be observed that some one only bid par for his:

Names.	Amount.	Date.	Premium.	Amount of Premium.
Clarkson Benn...	$10,000	$100 00		
E. S. Pierce & Bro...	10,000	100 50		
Wm. H. Aspinwall...	10,000	100 60		
[illegible]	10,000	101 00		
[illegible]	20,000	100 11		
[illegible]	10,000	100 00		
Shepherd Knapp Merrill...	4,000	101 00		
[illegible]	5,000	101 00		
Clarkson Crolius...	5,000	100 00		
Thomas H. Lovell...	5,000	100 00		
Thomas H. Lovell...	5,000	104 77	$200 23	
Thomas H. Lovell...	5,000	105 07	252 51	
Jos. B. Thompson...	5,000	101 00		
Wm. Hoopes...	10,000	101 00		
Wm. Hoopes...	10,000	101 00		
Jas. B. Blake...	10,000	102 00		
[illegible]	10,000	101 00		
[illegible]	5,000	101 00		
[illegible]	5,000	101 00		
[illegible]	10,000	101 00		
[illegible]	5,000	101 00		
[illegible]	5,000	101 00		
[illegible]	10,000	101 00		
[illegible]	5,000	101 00		
[illegible]	5,000	101 00		
[illegible]	10,000	101 00		
[illegible]	10,000	101 00		
[illegible]	10

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SECURITIES
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EDWARD KING,
Cashier, New-Orleans Branch.

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Interest allowed on deposits.
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THE COUPONS DUE MARCH 1, 1864,
OF
STATE OF ALABAMA 5 PER CENT. BONDS,
AND
STATE OF GEORGIA 6 PER CENT. BONDS,
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PEALE, PARSONS & CO., No. 40 BROADWAY.

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NATIONAL MECHANICS' BANKING ASSOCIATION
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No. 191 BROADWAY,
ON TUESDAY, THE 15TH INST., AT 12 O'CLOCK M.,
FOR THE ELECTION OF DIRECTORS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.
THOMAS MORRELL, Cashier

AMUSEMENTS.

MEDICAL.

MUSICAL.

FALLS.

LECTURES.

DANCING.

COAL.

MEETINGS.

HALLS.

RAILROADS.

SHIPPING.

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TEACHERS.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

POLITICAL.

THE REBEL PIRATES.

Continued from First Page.

...and with the Queen's Bench...

...Attorney-General...

...Lord Cairns...

...Lord Chancellor...

...Lord Chief Baron...

...Lord Chief Justice...

...Lord Chief Justice of England...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Exchequer...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal...

...Lord Chief Justice of the High Court...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Supreme Court...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Session...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Justiciary...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Exchequer...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Chancery...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Probate...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Admiralty...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Bankruptcy...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Insolvency...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Arbitration...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal in Chancery...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal in Bankruptcy...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal in Insolvency...

...Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal in